I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below to: Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Paul Littlepage

Atty Docket No: 26-003710US

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Peter Palese, et al.

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Specified

Examiner: unassigned

Application No.: Not Yet Specified

(Continuation of 09/396,593)

Art Unit: unassigned

Filed: April 7, 2004 (Herewith)

For: **Recombinant Negative Strand RNA** 

**Virus Expression Systems and Vaccines** 

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the following Preliminary Amendment be considered prior to examination of the above-cited application. Please note that this Preliminary Amendment copies claims from US Patent Nos. 6,544,785 and 6,649,372 both by Palese.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.